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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

THOMAS G. BRUTON
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT

)	
)	Case Number:
Plaintiff)	
)	Judge:
v.)	
)	Magistrate Judge:
)	
Defendant)	

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

A. **De Minimis / Innocent Infringement** – Two isolated retail sales with aggregate profit of US \$4.86 constitute innocent and de minimis infringement under 17 U.S.C. §504(c)(2) and 15 U.S.C. §1117(c)(1).

B. **Lack of Willfulness** – Items were lawfully purchased from a reputable U.S. retailer; Defendant applied no counterfeit marks and had no knowledge of any claimed rights.

C. **Misjoinder (Rule 21)** – Plaintiff joins approximately **150** unrelated sellers without alleging concerted action; permissive joinder is improper.

D. **Excessive Asset Freeze** – The TRO/PI freezes assets vastly exceeding the maximum plausible recovery (US \$4.86) and should be dissolved or reduced.

E. **Failure to Mitigate** – Plaintiff waited about eight months after the listings had been removed to file suit and issued no prior takedown notice.

F. **Minimal Personal Jurisdiction** – Only one sub-US \$3 shipment reached Illinois; exercise of jurisdiction is constitutionally unreasonable.

WHEREFORE Defendant respectfully asks that the Complaint be dismissed, or that any award be limited to nominal damages, and for such other relief the Court deems just.

Dated: 2 July 2025

Ramazan Özel (“RaL_Mall”), Pro Se

s/ Ramazan Özel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I certify that on 2 July 2025 I served the foregoing Answer and Affirmative Defenses via e-mail upon counsel for Plaintiff at attorney@scip.law

s/ Ramazan Özel